

Re: RM-10787

I have been a radio amateur for about 2 years, having passed the 5 wpm code test and Extra Class Exam.

I support the total elimination of the Morse code requirement.

Morse code, however interesting a form of communication it may be, is neither the most efficient form, nor a form that reflects one way or the other on the character of the individual who is using it. In the old days, there was the expectation that one who learns the code will frequently use it, but this is no longer the case. Thus, the code requirement appears to me more as a hazing ritual than a real test of knowledge, skill or character.

The spectrum above 30 MHz has been available to technician licensees for many years, and the quality of the operation there appears to be no different than below 30 MHz. Problems that exist in some geographical areas, are really problems of enforcement, which is a separate issue.

In order to attract new talent, the amateur radio service needs to demonstrate to the public that the incentives to advance in the amateur service are linked to technically relevant, contemporary benchmarks.

The code test should be removed, and improvements should be made to the written tests so that merit can be awarded on a realistic basis.

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